

## PROCLAMATION ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH

September 2008

WHEREAS, treatment and long-term recovery from substance use disorders can offer a renewed outlook on life for those who are addicted and their family members; and

WHEREAS, substance use disorders impact 22.6 million people aged 12 or older in the United States, equivalent to 9.2 percent of the population; and

WHEREAS, people who receive treatment for substance use disorders can lead more productive and fulfilling lives, personally and professionally; and

WHEREAS, studies have consistently found that individualized treatment is essential for people to be successful in their path of recovery; and

WHEREAS, real stories of long-term recovery can inspire others to ask for help and improve their own lives, the lives of their families, and the entire community; and

WHEREAS, it is critical that we educate our community members that substance use disorders are treatable, yet serious health care problems, and by treating them like other chronic diseases, we can improve the quality of life for the entire community; and

WHEREAS, to help achieve this goal, the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the North Dakota addiction treatment community invite all state residents to participate in National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month.

NOW, THEREFORE, as the Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim September 2008, Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month, in the state of North Dakota.

ohn Hoeven

ATTEST:

Secretary of State

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